Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

Message Text

PAGE 01 STATE 215071
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TO AMEMBASSY LAGOS IMMEDIATE
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S E C R E T STATE 215071

NODIS
CHEROKEE FOR CHARGE ONLY

FOLLOWING REPEAT STATE 215071 ACTION DAR ES SALAAM PRETORIA
DATED AUG 24:

QTE: S E C R E T STATE 215071

NODIS
CHEROKEE PRETORIA FOR LOW ONLY

E.O. 11652: GDS-1

TAGS: RH, UK, PDEV

SUBJECT: RHODESIA: NYERERE'S CONCERNS

REF: DAR ES SALAAM 3589

1. YOUR REPORT OF NYERERE'S REACTION TO GARBA'S VISIT WAS MOST USEFUL. YOU WERE IN AN AWKWARD SITUATION AND HANDLED IT WELL. WE HAVE NOT BEEN IN A POSITION HERETOFORE TO
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INFORM YOU ABOUT GARBA'S ACTIVITIES BUT WE BELIEVE THAT IN VIEW OF NYERERE'S HAVING OPENED THIS SUBJECT WITH YOU, YOU SHOULD PURSUE THE MATTER WITH HIM IN A LIMITED WAY.

2. FOR PURPOSES OF BACKGROUND, YOU SHOULD KNOW THAT THE BRITISH, WITH OUR ASSENT AND WORKING THROUGH AND WITH THE NIGERIANS, HAVE SOUGHT TO ENCOURAGE SMITH/NKOMO CONTACTS PRIOR TO AN ALL PARTIES MEETING. ONE SUCH MEETING HAS TAKEN PLACE AND THERE IS NOW THE PROSPECT OF A SMITH MEETING WITH NKOMO AND MUGABE. IT WAS THIS POSSIBILITY

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WHICH, AS WE UNDERSTAND, OCCASIONED GARBA'S CONSULTATION WITH NYERERE, GARBA HAVING PREVIOUSLY SEEN MACHEL. AS YOU WOULD ASSUME, KAUNDA IS AWARE OF THESE DEVELOPMENTS. WE ARE NOT INFORMED IN DETAIL ON THE VARIOUS CONVERSATIONS AND OF ALL THE BRITISH DEALINGS. THE OBJECTIVE OF THE BRITISH EFFORT IS TO BE SUPPORTIVE OF AND TO MAKE MORE PRODUCTIVE THE ALL PARTIES TALKS WHICH LOW AND GRAHAM

HAVE BEEN SEEKING TO ORGANIZE.

3. YOU SHOULD GO BACK TO NYERERE AND SAY THAT IN RESPONSE TO YOUR REPORTING FROM THE EARLIER CONVERSATION (REFTEL) YOU ARE INSTRUCTED TO MAKE THE FOLLOWING POINTS TO HIM. (THIS SHOULD BE DONE ORALLY AND NOTHING LEFT IN WRITING):

A. WE HAVE BEEN INFORMED IN GENERAL TERMS OF THE NIGERIAN-BRITISH INITIATIVE BUT HAVE NOT BEEN INVOLVED IN DETAIL PLANNING, NOR ARE WE INFORMED ON ALL OF THE CONVERSATIONS WHICH HAVE TAKEN PLACE. WE HAVE SUPPORTED THE INITIATIVE AS POTENTIALLY USEFUL IN PREPARING THE WAY FOR A PRODUCTIVE ALL PARTIES MEETING AND A SETTLEMENT TO BE BASED ON THE PRINCIPLES OF THE AAP.

B. GIVEN THE INCLINATION ON THE PART OF NKOMO AND SMITH TO MEET AND TO INCLUDE MUGABE, WE SEE VALUE IN OTHERS HELPING TO BRING THEM TOGETHER.

C. WE ARE PLEASED THAT MUGABE, NYERERE AND MACHEL ARE INFORMED OF DEVELOPMENTS. WE RECOGNIZE THAT ANY ARRANGE-MENT THAT LACKS FULL FRONT LINE SUPPORT OR WOULD DIVIDE THE PF IS NOT A SETTLEMENT AT ALL.

D. WE VIEW THE SMITH-NKOMO MEETING AND POTENTIAL FURTHER MEETINGS BETWEEN SMITH AND THE PF AS PRELIMINARY STAGES FOR AN ALL-PARTIES MEETING; AN ATTEMPT TO CLEAR AWAY SOME OF THE UNDERGROWTH THAT WILL ALLOW US TO MOVE TOWARD A COMPREHENSIVE SETTLEMENT.

E. THERE SHOULD BE NO MISAPPREHENSION ABOUT OUR GOAL. WE REMAIN COMMITTED TO A FAIR SETTLEMENT, BASED UPON THE PRINCIPLES OF THE ANGLO-AMERICAN PROPOSALS. WE BELIEVE THAT SUCH A SETTLEMENT CAN BEST BE NEGOTIATED AT AN ALL PARTIES MEETING. THIS IS WHAT WE ARE WORKING TOWARD AND OUR SUPPORT FOR OTHER NEGOTIATING EFFORTS IS SUBSIDIARY TO AND SUPPORTIVE OF THIS OVERALL GOAL.

4. YOU SHOULD MAKE THIS APPROACH TO NYERERE ALONE AND WITHOUT DISCUSSING WITH YOUR BRITISH COLLEAGUE. WE ARE INFORMING OWEN THAT NYERERE RAISED THE GARBA MISSION WITH YOU FOR THAT REASON YOU WILL BE SPEAKING TO NYERERE ALONG

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